

Re: **Awards.**

Background:

IASSID has set out in its Articles & Bylaws a procedure to confer awards. The awards are given under the following categories:

- Research – for formulations and investigations which have contributed significantly to sciences related to intellectual disabilities, for either a major single contribution or a sustained and important contribution over a lifetime.

To be designated “Distinguished Achievement Award – Research”.

- Scientific Literature for an outstanding publication published since the last Congress which contributes substantially to the literature in the field of intellectual disabilities.

To be designated “Distinguished Achievement Award – Scientific Literature”.

- Service – for contributions to the improvement of services for persons with an intellectual disability which result in substantive contribution to prevention or amelioration.

To be designated “Distinguished Achievement Award – Service”.

Distinguished Service Citation – an award of the Distinguished Service Citation would be made for an outstanding or exemplary service to the Association by a person who has served as an Officer, Councillor, Member of a Committee or otherwise actively participated in the affairs and activities of the Association.

- Stevens Shapiro – IASSID Fellowships.

These awards are conferred by the General Assembly. The Council of IASSID approves the recommendations of the Awards Committee. The Council can also decide not to approve awards.

Criticism:

Sometimes during or after the General Assembly criticism has been made of –
Recipients (Awards to themselves).
Recipients (doesn't represent outstanding contribution to the field).
Recipients not recognised enough.

Seeking nominations:

Nominations have been sought through the IASSID Structure.

- SIRGs.
- Committees.
- Affinity Groups
- Newsletter.
- Council members.

For the future additional options of seeking awards through JIDR and JIPPID and other associations' journals.

Change:

Since IASSID awards were first established – IASSID has developed –

- Regional meetings.
- Affinity groups.
- SIRGs.

If we want to acknowledge advances in practice and thinking, should more attention be given to awards in more specific areas?

Mental Health.

Ageing.

Parents.

Families

Etc.

Name of award – should we have, rather than awards, an IASSID gold and silver medals for achievement represented by different SIRGs and Affinity Groups? By having an agreed award, then it is easier to repeat an agreed design.

Change for date and location.

Rather than having the specific designated headings as currently happens, could the Awards Committee recommend IASSID Goals / Silver Medals for specific pieces of work including young researchers?

Timing – have agreed times to call for nominations to take account of different meetings –
Regional.
SIRGs.
International congresses.

Keeping Council informed:

In the timing a sequence to keep Council aware of nominees and ample time to enable a decision to be made. Decisions can be made by electronic communication.

Questions:

To retain old systems?
To develop a new system?
To have a mix and match (old and new) ?

Recognise contributions of -

- o Young researchers.
- o Individual pieces of work from members at regional meetings.
- o SIRG meetings e.g. Ageing, Round table.
- o International congresses.

Stephen Kealy.